

REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-30 and 33-37.

The Examiner has issued a final rejection on January 24, 2005, rejecting claims 31 and 32. Applicant has canceled these claims and respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment for purposes of placing the Application in condition for allowance.

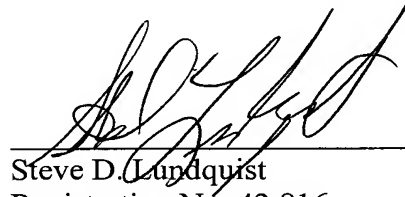
**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

The Examiner has rejected claims 31 and 32 under the obviousness provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,169,497 to Robert in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,987,379 to Smith. Applicant has canceled claims 31 and 32, thus removing the grounds for rejection.

**Conclusion**

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and that they be withdrawn. The Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned representative if it is believed that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve D. Lundquist', is written over a horizontal line.

Steve D. Lundquist  
Registration No. 42,816  
Caterpillar Inc.

Telephone: (309) 675-4460  
Facsimile: (309) 675-1236